

October 2016 Meeting Minutes

The October meeting for AYHSC was held on October 6th, 2016 from 5:30-7:00pm at the Whittemore Robbins House.

In Attendance:

Adults: Kerry Austin-Smith, Steve Porciello, Cindy Starks, Mike Leach, Kelli Keck, Cindy Bouvier, Carlene Newell, Joe Curro, Pat Egan & Karen Dillon

Students: Megan Laurendeau, Olivia Graceffa, Sana Mohtadi and Catie Blair

Welcome/ Introductions:

Student Advisors and community members all introduced themselves and shared their respective roles in our community.

September Meeting minutes: Megan Laurendeau moved to approve, Catie Blair seconded; all approved the September meeting minutes.

Student Coalition Updates

Project Purple Basketball Game will take place on Friday, January 27th. This is a student coordinated effort. Only the boy's basketball team will be able to participate. The student coordinators are exploring other ways to involve students at the High School that week. Maybe there will be an opportunity in long block

Student gatherings after hours on Courts and Lamas is in full swing. Police will be advised.

Question 4: With many students in the senior class able to vote, discussion and education about question 4 is warranted.

Comprehensive Strategy Planning

Kelli Keck, our Coalition evaluator was at the meeting. She led a Coalition evaluation activity. Attendees split into 4 groups and wrote down what they perceive to be Coalition roles and responsibilities. Students spoke as peer leaders for their groups and shared information. The groups perceptions of the Coalition are that we are liaisons between police, school, health department and parents. Our objective is to support and share information. The Coalition has internal and external responsibilities which were described as:

Ivy's Role: to provide leadership, keep focus on goals, update Coalition on issues, the "face" of the Coalition, guides us, leads us, connects members, connects to state governments, reports paperwork. Keeps up to date with the forefront of political activities.

Karen's Role: Liaison to students, transparency and outreach, communication and vocalization, mini-grant project management.

Coalition's role: Articulate the Coalition vision and mission, understand what we are working on, aware of coalition's successes and action plans, Coalition staff involve members in every initiative, best match members to tasks.

Staff Roles: Facilitate, guide, educate and remove barriers.

Volunteer Roles: Do, identify, advise, follow through.

The Evaluator asked Coalition members what support they need from Coalition staff to better engage in the implementation of the Coalition's work. The response was that the Coalition staff provide everything needed.

Kelli Keck led the meeting participants in an Intervention Mapping Activity (mapping activities that align to local conditions). Attendees broke into three groups to intervention map about the fact that athletes report an increased rate of use and risk behavior.

Group 1 focused on:

Providing information, building skills, providing supports

and reported these ideas:

Information shows disparate consequences. It's becoming harder to find consequences that fit the offense.

Propose a uniform school-wide code of conduct.

Establish a school policy with a built in refusal strategy.

Build self esteem and environmental skills.

Focus on harm reduction.

Group 2 focused on:

Provide support & access/barriers

and reported these ideas:

All clubs and activities should have consequences and follow the same policies and procedures.

All leaders would require the same training.

Common information for all groups.

Repeat and remind students of rules and regulations.

Group 3 focused on:

Incentives and Disincentives

and reported these ideas:

Increase punishment.

Same policy for all activities.

Unified policy.

Education class.

Parent nights.

Offer incentives-encourage them to make healthy choices.

Community Update - "What's happening in Arlington?"

AYHSC 10-YEAR CELEBRATION - Thursday, December 1st. This special event will celebrate the impact of AYHSC on the Arlington Community over the past decade.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Next Coalition Meeting - November 3rd 2016 at 5:30pm at the Whittemore Robbins House.